

CLAIMS

1 1. A dispensing container for use with a mount having a receiver, the container
2 comprising: a projection adapted to: (1) releasably secure the receiver, such that the
3 container is at least partially secured in the mount; and (2) permit the container, while
4 secured in the mount, to move from a first orientation to a second orientation.

1 2. The dispensing container of Claim 1, wherein the projection comprises a first
2 means for securing adapted to interact with a second means for securing associated with
3 the receiver.

1 3. The dispensing container of Claim 1, wherein the projection comprises a ridge at
2 least partially extending around a portion of the projection, wherein the ridge is adapted to
3 interact with an indentation in the receiver.

1 4. The dispensing container of Claim 1, further comprising a first channel formed into
2 at least part of the projection and a second channel arranged substantially perpendicularly
3 to the first channel and intersecting the first channel, wherein the first channel and second
4 channel are adapted to slidably interact with a securing means that is associated with the
5 receiver.

1 5. The dispensing container of Claim 4, wherein the securing means comprises a
2 structure selected from the group consisting of a pin, ball detent, lock, snap-lock, arm and
3 flange.

1 6. The dispensing container of Claim 4, further comprising a third channel formed into
2 at least part of the projection arranged substantially perpendicularly to the first channel and
3 intersecting the first channel, wherein:

4 (a) the second channel is inclined such that:

5 (i) the securing means associated with the receiver can slidably interact
6 with the second channel to permit securing the container to the mount; and

7 (ii) the securing means associated with the receiver cannot slidably
8 interact with the second channel to permit removing the container from the mount; and

9 (b) the third channel is inclined such that:

10 (i) the securing means associated with the receiver can slidably interact
11 with the third channel to permit removing the container from the mount; and

12 (ii) the securing means associated with the receiver cannot slidably
13 interact with the third channel to permit securing the container to the mount.

1 7. The dispensing container of Claim 1, wherein the projection further comprises a
2 first channel extending at least partially around a circumference of the projection, wherein
3 the first channel is adapted to slidably interact with at least one snap lock extending from
4 the receiver.

1 8. The dispensing container of Claim 7, wherein the snap lock comprises either a lip
2 or at least two resilient arms.

1 9. A container for use with a mount, the container comprising (1) a dispenser for
2 dispensing material within the container, and (2) a projection adapted to interface with the
3 mount, the projection comprising a first locking mechanism, oriented generally parallel to
4 an axis passing through a center of the projection, and a second locking mechanism,
5 oriented at least skew to the axis, wherein each of the first and second locking mechanisms
6 are adapted to interface with the mount to impede removal of the container while allowing
7 the container to move from a first orientation to a second orientation.

1 10. The container of Claim 9, wherein the projection extends from a bottom portion of
2 the container and the first locking mechanism comprises no more than one channel at least
3 partially circumscribing the projection wherein the channel is adapted to interact with
4 securing means on a mount such that: (i) the container can be releasably secured to the
5 mount; and (ii) the container can be at least partially rotated from the first orientation to the
6 second orientation while the container remains releasably secured in the mount and
7 without disengaging from the mount.

1 11. The container of Claim 10, wherein the projection has an upper portion that meets a
2 bottom of the container and the channel is located proximate to an upper portion of the
3 projection.

1 12. The container of Claim 9, wherein the projection extends from a portion of the
2 container, wherein the first locking mechanism comprises a first channel at least partially
3 surrounding the projection, wherein the second locking mechanism comprises a second
4 channel that: (1) intersects the first channel; and (2) extends to an edge of the projection,
5 wherein the first channel and the second channel are adapted to couple with portions of the
6 mount.

1 13. The container of Claim 12, wherein the portion that the projection extends from is
2 the bottom of the container; the edge is located at the bottom of the projection; and the
3 second channel runs generally from the edge towards the bottom of the container.

1 14. The container of Claim 12, wherein the second channel comprises an incline that
2 accepts a securing means associated with the mount as the container is inserted in the
3 mount; and the incline includes a top portion that bears against the securing means to
4 preclude removal of the container from the mount.

1 15. The container of Claim 12, wherein the projection comprises a third channel that,
2 when aligned with the securing means, allows the securing means to slide along the
3 channel so as to facilitate removal of the container from the mount.

1 16. The container of Claim 8, wherein the first and second locking mechanisms
2 interface with at least one snap lock on the mount.

1 17. A dispensing system for use in a mount that is adapted to be secured to a surface,
2 the dispensing system comprising:

3 (a) a container with an opening for receiving a dispensing mechanism;

4 (b) a first means, associated with the container, for securing the container to the
5 mount;

6 (c) a second means, associated with the mount, for securing the container to the
7 mount; and

8 (d) wherein the first securing means couples to at least a portion of the second
9 securing means such that the container is releasably secured to the mount and such that the
10 container is at least partially freely rotatable relative to the mount.

1 18. The dispensing system of Claim 17, wherein the first securing means is located on
2 the mount and comprises an indentation; wherein the second securing means comprises a
3 ridge located on the container; wherein the ridge interacts with the indentation such that
4 the container can be releasably secured to the mount and such that the container can be
5 rotated relative to the mount when the container is inserted in the mount without
6 disengaging from the mount.

1 19. The dispensing system of Claim 18, wherein the first securing means are formed on
2 a projection downwardly extending from a bottom portion of the container and the second
3 securing means extends from an interior receiver portion of the mount.

1 20. The dispensing system of Claim 18, wherein the first securing means are formed on
2 an interior receiver portion of the mount and the second securing means extends from a
3 projection, the projection downwardly extending from a bottom portion of the container.

1 21. The dispensing system of Claim 19 or Claim 20, wherein the second channel
2 comprises an untapered channel such that rotating the container relative to the mount to
3 align the second channel with the pin allows the pin to slidably interact with the second
4 channel, permitting the container to be removed from and inserted into the mount.

1 22. The dispensing system of Claim 19 or Claim 20, further comprising a third channel
2 arranged substantially perpendicularly to and intersecting the first channel; wherein the
3 second channel comprises a second tapered channel and the third channel comprises a third
4 tapered channel tapered in an opposite direction as the second tapered channel; wherein
5 rotating the container relative to the mount to align the second tapered channel with the pin
6 allows the pin to slidably interact with the second tapered channel, permitting the container
7 to be inserted into the mount, and such that rotating the container relative to the mount to
8 align the third tapered channel with the pin allows the pin to slidably interact with the third
9 tapered channel, permitting the container to be removed from the mount.

1 23. The dispensing system of Claim 22, wherein the container can only be inserted into
2 the mount when the second tapered channel is aligned with the pin and wherein the

3 container can only be removed from the mount when the third tapered channel is aligned
4 with the pin.

1 24. A mount for holding a container, comprising:

2 (a) a base adapted to be secured to a surface;

3 (b) a receiver within the base that is adapted to receive a portion of a container;

4 and

5 (c) a first securing means associated with the receiver, the first securing means

6 adapted to releasably secure the projection within the receiver while permitting the

7 container to move from a first orientation to a second orientation relative to the mount.

1 25. A mount according to Claim 24, wherein the first securing means comprises a pin

2 extending from a portion of the receiver, the pin adapted to engage a first channel at least

3 partially circumscribing the portion of the container and a second channel perpendicular to

4 and intersecting the first channel, such that the container may be rotated relative to the

5 mount without disengaging the container from the mount, and such that the container can

6 only be inserted into and removed from the mount when the pin is aligned with the second

7 channel.

1 26. A mount according to Claim 24, wherein the container comprises a first indentation

2 on a portion of the container and the first securing means comprises at least one snap-lock

3 extending from the receiver and adapted to interface with the first channel.

1 27. A mount according to Claim 26, further comprising at least one rib secured to the
2 snap-lock.

1 28. A mount according to Claim 27, wherein the at least one rib is disposed along an
2 outside surface of the at least one snap-lock.

1 29. A mount according to Claim 26, wherein the first indentation extends around the
2 portion to form a first channel so that, after the container is placed within the receiver, the
3 snap-lock is adapted to move within the first channel to allow the container to turn.

1 30. A mount according to Claim 29, wherein the container further comprises a second
2 indentation that, when aligned with the snap-lock, facilitates insertion or removal of the
3 container from the receiver.

1 31. A mount according to Claim 24, wherein the first securing means is located on an
2 inner portion of the receiver and the container further comprises a second securing means.

1 32. A mount according to Claim 31, wherein the second securing means comprises an
2 indentation at least partially circumscribing a portion of the container and wherein the first
3 securing means on the receiver comprises either a pin extending from the inner portion of
4 the receiver or a lip at least partially circumscribing an inner portion of the receiver.

1 33. A mount according to Claim 32, wherein the lip is adapted to fit within the
2 indentation, such that when the container is secured to the mount, the container may be
3 rotated relative to the mount without disengaging the container from the mount.

1 34. A mount according to claim 24, wherein the first securing means comprises at least
2 one pin; and the container further comprises a first channel adapted to mate with the pin
3 and a second channel intersecting the first channel.

1 35. A mount according to claim 34 wherein the first channel facilitates rotation of the
2 container and the second channel facilitates insertion or removal of the container.

1 36. A process for providing and replenishing at least one container removably secured
2 in a mount, the process comprising:

3 (a) providing a first container adapted to be secured to a mount, the first
4 container and mount forming a secured dispensing system in which the first container
5 comprises a projection adapted to releasably secure a portion of the mount to at least
6 partially secure the container in the mount while permitting the container to move from a
7 first orientation to a second orientation relative to the mount;

8 (b) removing the container from the mount; and

9 (c) either removing and refilling the first bottle or inserting into the mount in the
10 place of the first bottle a second bottle adapted to be releasably secured in the mount.

1 37. The process of Claim 36, wherein the second bottle has a projection comprising a
2 first channel formed into at least part of the projection and a second channel arranged to
3 intersect the first channel, and inserting the second bottle comprises aligning the second
4 channel with a securing means that is associated with a portion of the mount.

1 38. The process of Claim 36, wherein the projection further comprises an indentation
2 for receiving a snap lock, and removing the first bottle involves exerting sufficient pressure
3 to disengage the snap lock from the indentation.

1 39. A conversion module for a dispensing system having a mount fixed to a surface and
2 a receiver within the mount adapted to hold a first container having a first locking
3 mechanism, the conversion module comprising:

4 (a) a base having an outer surface adapted to engage the first locking mechanism;
5 and

6 (b) an inner surface on the base adapted to secure a second container having a
7 second locking mechanism incompatible with the receiver.

1 40. The conversion module of Claim 39, wherein the inner surface of the conversion
2 module is adapted to interface with the second locking mechanism such that the second
3 container is at least partially rotatable relative to the conversion module without
4 disengaging the second container from the conversion module.

1 41. The conversion module of claim 40, further comprising a pin extending from the
2 inner surface of the conversion module, the pin adapted to slidably interact with the second
3 locking mechanism, the second locking mechanism comprising a first and second channel
4 formed on a portion of the second container such that the second container is releasably
5 securable to the conversion module and such that the container is at least partially rotatable
6 relative to the conversion module without disengaging from the conversion module.

1 42. The conversion module of Claim 39, further comprising a second conversion
2 module, the second conversion module adapted to engage the inner surface on the base and
3 adapted to secure a third container having a third locking mechanism.

1 43. The conversion module of Claim 42, wherein the third locking mechanism
2 comprises threads adapted to engage threads on a portion of the second conversion
3 module.